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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Driver in Fatal New Year's Day Crash at .145 PAC

Milwaukee, WI – The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office released the prohibited alcohol concentration (PAC) of Leopoldo R. Salas-Gaytan, 41, the driver of the vehicle going east bound on west bound I-94 on New Year's Day morning, colliding with several vehicles. Salas-Gaytan's PAC was .145, nearly twice the legal limit of .08.

Corrie A. Damske, 34, of Wauwatosa, was killed in the crash. She died from multiple traumatic injuries caused by the head on collision with Salas-Gaytan's vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene.

A timeline of the tragic incident shows Salas-Gaytan made a U-turn on I-94 westbound at 35th Street at 7:22 a.m. A Milwaukee County Sheriff's deputy observed the vehicle traveling east bound in the west bound lane, notified dispatch, and exited I-94 in an attempt to catch up to the vehicle. Numerous squads responded.

At 7:24 a.m. deputies arrived on the scene of a crash involving the subject vehicle and two west bound vehicles. The Milwaukee Police Department and Milwaukee Fire Department paramedic and emergency response personnel also responded. No injuries were sustained by the driver of the third vehicle involved in the crash.

Cash bail has been set at \$55,000. The District Attorney's office issued charges today for Class D Felony Homicide by Intoxicated Use of a Motor Vehicle. If convicted, Salas-Gaytan faces a fine not to exceed \$100,000, imprisonment not to exceed 25 years, or both.

Salas-Gaytan has previously received two citations for Operating Without a Drivers License by the Milwaukee Police Department. No other criminal history was found. Salas-Gaytan said he has resided in the United States for the past 13 years and admitted to being an illegal immigrant. His immigration status has not yet been confirmed by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Salas-Gaytan sustained a left leg injury and remains at Froedtert Hospital in satisfactory condition in the custody of the Sheriff's Office.

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